

**DC Commission on Persons with Disabilities**  
**Minutes**  
**March 31, 2009**

**Attendance:**

**Commissioners:**

Karen Wolf-Branigin  
Charles Butler  
Denise Decker (by telephone)  
Don Galloway

**Staff:**

Christina Mitchell

Don Galloway announced that with only 4 members of the DCCPD present, therefore a quorum is not in place for its March meeting. It was decided by all present, that in place of a formal meeting, the members would engage in a discussion about DCCPD business.

*\*Note: These minutes serve as a summary of that discussion and not official DCCPD Meeting Minutes.*

Mr. Galloway asked for any questions or concerns in regards to the minutes from the February meeting. Mr. Galloway requested to receive meeting minutes within 10 days from the meeting.

Karen Wolf-Branigin stated that DCCPD no longer needs to have the Office of Disability Rights Report on the monthly agenda. Ms. Wolf-Branigin and Charles Butler agreed that they like to receive the updates from the ODR office but it is not useful time to discuss the report, therefore, they would like to continue receiving the report but not add it as an discussion item.

Ms. Wolf-Branigin discussed the importance of completely understanding the charge of the DC Commission on Persons with Disabilities. During the next full commission meeting she suggested that we have time to clearly define the mission and roles of the DCCPD, in order to move forward more productively.

Mr. Galloway described the recent information discussed between he and Erica Nash on the HealthCare Finance agency. Mr. Galloway suggested the that DCCPD look into some of the procedures and policies of the HealthCare Finance agency in order to keep them on track of the assistant living goals.

Mr. Galloway requested a reporting update on the Assistive Technology project that Dr. Denise Decker has been working on. Dr. Decker explained that with assistance from Christina Mitchell, a directory of Assistive Technology websites has been created. She announced that she and Christina would be going to the new Assistive Technology Center in the Martin Luther King Library next Wednesday, to meet with Ms. Demson.

Ms. Wolf-Branigin suggested that DCCPD begin to look into the laws, the incentives and policy of the Federal, Virginia and Maryland governments with the hopes of not re-inventing the wheel on some of our initiatives and finding the gaps within DC's current policies.

Mr. Butler asked for an update on new commission members. Christina gave details of a conversation with Josh Moskowitz from the Office of Boards and Commissions. Josh explained that applications are being reviewed and at least two people will be contacted soon for interview purposes. Ms. Wolf-Branigin suggested that we look into the selection process of OBC, to insure that all applications are electronically accessible to all persons.

The Events and Outreach Committee will be holding a team meeting Wednesday, April 1 to discuss preparation of the Disability Awareness Conference.

**New Projects and Initiative Discussed 3/31/09.**

- Review the policies of DC agencies to insure they address the needs of persons with disabilities.
  - Review DC Healthcare Finance
- Review Federal and state government policies and incentive for persons with disabilities.
- Work with Office of Chief Technology Officer (OCTO) to ensure all forms on the DC Government websites are fully accessible.

Below please find our committees member listing.

**Policy and Planning Committee**

Frank Anderson (Chair)  
Denise Decker

Jon Mitchiner

Charles Butler

**Events and Outreach Committee**

Erica Nash (Chair)

Don Galloway

**Evaluation and Monitoring Committee**

Seth Galanter (Chair)  
Don Galloway

Frank Anderson

Karen Wolf Branigin

**2009 Project and Initiatives**

Policy & Planning	Outreach & Events	Evaluation & Monitoring
Sign Language Certifications		Case Handling by OAG
Visitability		
Transportation		
Taxicab Certification		
Assistive Tech. Directory		

Each Committee Chair has agreed to connect the members of their team to set-up separate meetings time, either my phone, web or in-person.

The next DCCPD meeting is April 23, at 3:00 PM in conference room #1112.